

Chapter 5: Conclusions

Pacific salmon bring considerable ecological, economic, and cultural value to the watersheds and regions they inhabit along the west coast of the United States. Through their unique life cycle and migration, salmon contribute to the balance of ecosystems, providing valuable food resources for harvest by humans and wildlife. Vibrant salmon runs are also strongly tied to the culture and heritage of many people, especially Native American tribes. For these reasons, and the intrinsic value of the species, the PCSRF has supported state, tribal, and local partners to help reverse the declining trends experienced in salmon populations over the past several decades.

Since program inception in 2000, the PCSRF has been focused on the goal of restoring and conserving salmon habitat, conducting assessments, developing recovery plans, monitoring, educating, and developing more effective management practices to help overall sustainability of the species, both ESA-listed and non-listed salmon. Exhibit 5-1 shows the allocation of funds, including state matching funds, by program category to over 5,600 state and tribal projects. Exhibit 5-2 depicts the distribution of these various projects throughout the PCSRF region.

In concert with implementing projects and activities to restore salmon, the PCSRF has been developing and improving measures for assessing program performance. As described earlier, NMFS and the states and tribes have developed a Performance Reporting Framework to provide a means to track results of the PCSRF investments and progress toward the desired outcomes of salmon restoration and conservation. Next steps will include expanded monitoring and evaluation (M&E) efforts and further collection and organization of the M&E data in the Pacific Coast region that contribute to assessing both region-wide and recovery domain-specific measures. This may include information such as the following:

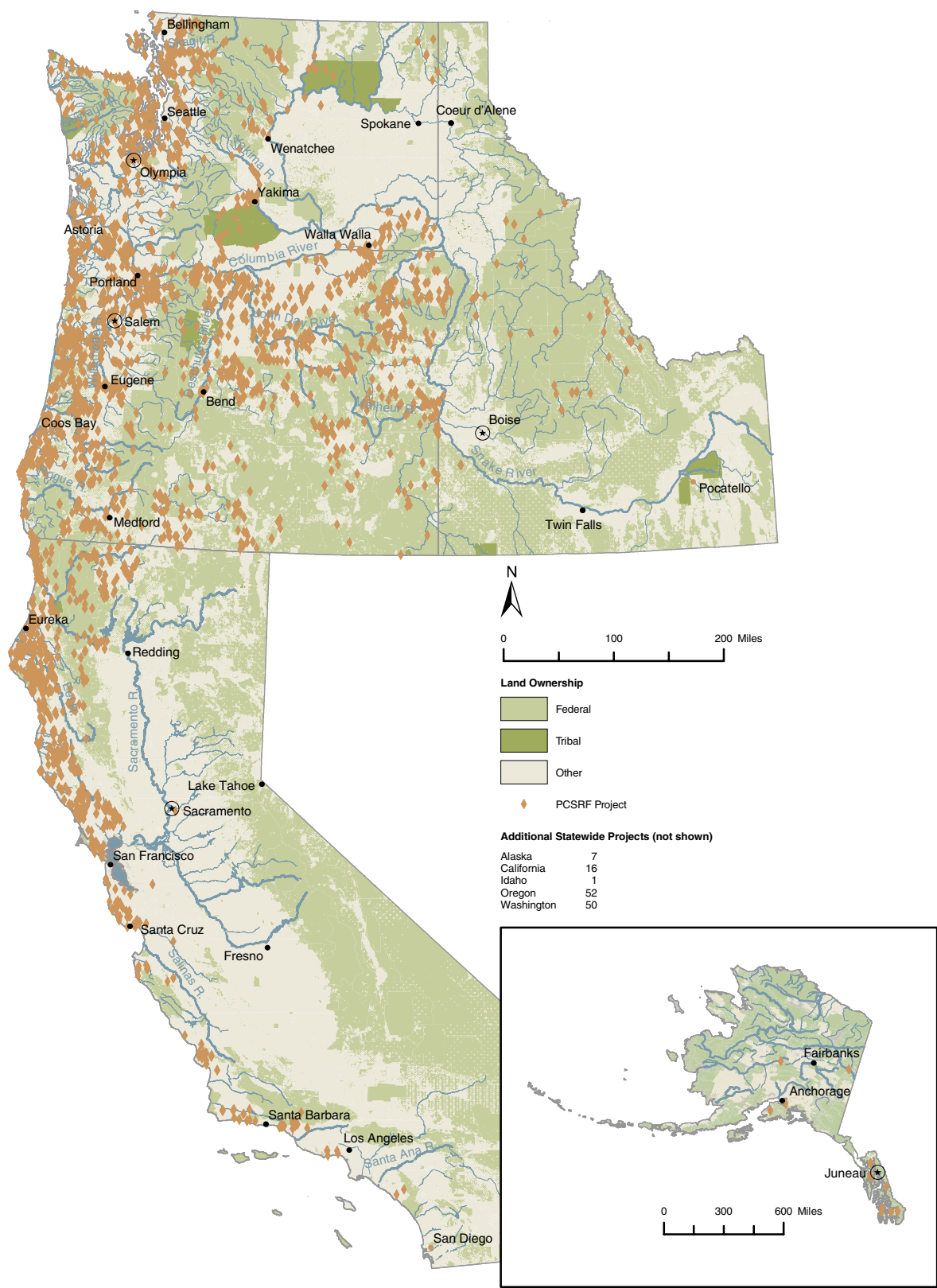
- » Trends in land use conversion and land use/land cover
- » Trends in instream flow and water temperatures
- » Trends in riparian vegetation and canopy cover
- » Miles of newly inhabited spawning ground

On-going improvements and refinements in program performance measures will assist in improving allocation of the PCSRF and state resources to further overall goals of the effort. NMFS, states, and tribes are committed to making this effort and sustaining Pacific Coast salmon populations.

Exhibit 5-1: PCSRF and State Funds Committed by Program Category (in millions)

| | Habitat Protection & Restoration (3,009 projects) | Watershed Assessment & Subbasin Planning (1,331 projects) | Research, Monitoring, Enhancement, & Education (1,320 projects) |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Washington | \$74.25 | \$36.19 | \$27.24 |
| Oregon | \$7.89 | \$29.55 | \$35.78 |
| California | \$40.39 | \$12.42 | \$12.84 |
| Idaho | \$7.46 | \$0.46 | \$0.73 |
| Alaska | \$5.23 | \$11.73 | \$80.37 |
| Columbia River Tribes | \$6.15 | \$1.36 | \$8.35 |
| Pacific Coastal Tribes | \$5.73 | \$14.83 | \$18.07 |
| Total PCSRF Funds | \$147.10 | \$106.54 | \$183.38 |
| Total State Matching Funds | \$171.87 | \$37.89 | \$26.41 |
| Total PCSRF & State Funds | \$318.97 | \$144.43 | \$209.79 |

Exhibit 5-2: PCSRF Projects Throughout the Region





NMFS is fully committed to continuing cooperation with the states and tribes to improve PCSRF program performance, and to develop and implement recovery plans that provide the “roadmap” for effective use of PCSRF funds in achieving recovery and restoration of Pacific salmon populations. Federal government support for the PCSRF program goals is evident by the Administration’s requests totaling \$570M for the PCSRF program through FY 2005, and Congressional appropriations totaling \$525M in response.

The Administration continues its support of the PCSRF program requesting \$66.8M for FY 2007, approximately the same level as FY 2006. The President’s FY 2007 Budget request for PCSRF directs that the FY 2007 funds be used “for projects necessary for restoration of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or identified by a State as at-risk to be so-listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific Coastal salmon and steelhead habitat, based on guidelines to be developed by the Secretary of Commerce.”